

of the tracks, to its present site, on the north side of where the tracks ran in the 1880s. If the date of the building were fully substantiated, this might prove to be one of the oldest surviving railroad depots in Rhode Island. It is now used as a residence and a store.

HOPKINS HOLLOW ROAD

- 14-B. Greene Community Church (1873): A simple, 1-story, rectangular, frame church with a gable roof, set gable end to the street. A central window in the gable end is flanked by doorways.
- 14-C. House (c. 1883): A Late Victorian, 2½-story building with a gable roof. Fish-scale shingles differentiate the second story. The building was used as a hall at one time.
- 14-D. W. V. Phillips Store (c. 1856): Once the main store and post office, this is a 2½-story, gable-roofed Greek Revival building set on a high brick basement with a store entrance on the first story and a residential entrance of simple Greek Revival proportions on the second story. Built by Whipple Phillips.
- 14-E. Library (1928): A 1½-story frame, Neoclassical library, set on a full basement story of field stone.
- 14-F. Ionic Lodge (1873): A 2-story frame building, set with its pedimented gable end to the street. Small, bracketed cornices act as window lintels. Built by Whipple Phillips, the building is often referred to as "Whipple's Hall." It housed many organizations and activities: Sunday School, Grange meetings, skating and many theatricals and dances.

15. HOPKINS HOLLOW

Two miles south of Greene is the hamlet of Hopkins Hollow. This area was first settled by Captain Richard Rice of Warwick who built a sawmill, gristmill and house here before 1750. By the first quarter of the 19th century, the name Rice's Mills disappeared from use and from maps. Jeremiah and Samuel Hopkins moved into the hollow, built a mill and a blacksmith's shop, and the name of the area soon changed. The mill site is now part of the Arnold Farms. The church survives, as does the schoolhouse, but the depopulation of the area is such that neither are in use.

HOPKINS HOLLOW ROAD

- 15-A. Hopkins Hollow Church (1862): A simple rectangular church building with a gable roof and two front doors at the gable end. Originally a Christian Union Church established by missionaries from Rice City, the congregation voted to join the Baptist conference in 1894. The adjacent cemetery predates the church; it was organized in 1840.

- 15-B. School (1872): A 2-room, rectangular schoolhouse with a gable roof; small brackets support the window lintels, and Victorian door hoods embellish the two doorways at the gable end. This is the second school to serve this hamlet; the first, built in 1822, fell into disrepair and had to be replaced. The present schoolhouse is located closer to Greene than the first.
- 15-C. Roaring Brook Farm, site of Rice's Mills: The farm is situated on Roaring Brook and is the site of Rice's Mills, a mid-18th-century mill complex. The farmhouse is a 1½-story, Greek Revival house with a gable roof, pilastered cornerboards and a simple doorway with side lights. Many alterations to the house have taken place, including large shed dormers and additions to the side and rear. On the property are a gristmill, a rare up-and-down sawmill and a blacksmith's shop. The gristmill is the third on the site and dates from the mid-19th century. The original up-and-down sawmill did not survive and was replaced by this one, brought from Hopkington, Massachusetts. The blacksmith's shop is not original, although there had been one at the site; this building is a reproduction.
- 15-D. Harris Store (c. 1835): A Greek Revival, 2½-story, gable-roofed building with a receding side ell with entrance. In the 19th century, a store was started here by Elisha Hopkins for an invalid son. It was continued after 1858 by John Harris and is listed in the Beers 1870 Directory. A store was located here until the 1920s.

SITES AND STRUCTURES IN THE GREENE AND HOPKINS HOLLOW ENVIRONS

LEWIS FARM ROAD

16. Lewis Mill Ruins and Peavy Cemetery: Massive stone foundations and terraces remain, straddling the Moosup River. The early 19th-century Lewis mills complex once included a sawmill, gristmill and cider mill. Several gravestones and monuments to the Peavey family, who ran the mills by 1895, are on the property. The mill buildings were converted and added onto in World War I for use as an experimental laboratory testing poison gases.

NARROW LANE

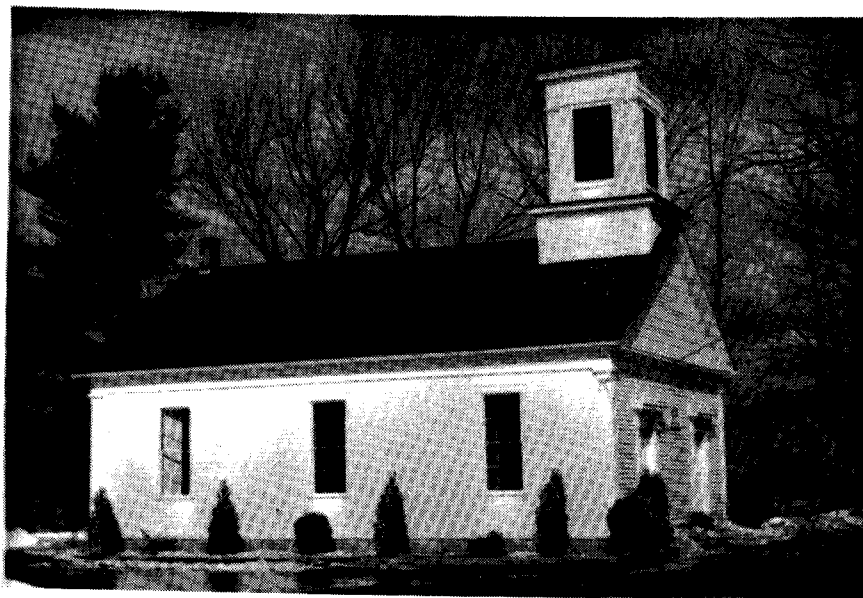
17. Arnold Home Farm: A large complex of farm buildings, many with fine decorative stone foundations. A house stood here before 1838, when it burned. The present house has been added onto many times, more than doubling its size. It now stands 2½-stories, with many gables and bays, showing the random eclectic growth of a country estate built up over a

period of more than a century by the Arnold family. The look of the house, overall, is early 20th century rustic Colonial Revival. The fine large barn with belfry dates from 1905. A well manicured farm estate, site of the Greene Herb Gardens from 1942 to 1972, the Arnold Farms have become a local landmark.

18. House: An Early Victorian, 1½-story house set on a high stone foundation, with a gable roof, two interior chimneys and small shed dormers. The first story is clapboarded, with cut shingles on the second story. The building has a gabled portico entrance and a side ell with a gabled porch. To the side stands an outbuilding, a double stable or garage with diamond panes in the gables, with a covered walkway separating the two sheds. The property is enclosed by massive stone walls.
19. American Cranberry Company: A cranberry bog was formed in the 19th century, three miles south of the village of Greene near the West Greenwich border in part of the Great Cedar Swamp. Many disputes regarding ownership of the bog ensued; the town took it over and sold it to Abiel T. Sampson in 1862. The present L-shaped, 2½-story, gable-roofed, barn-like building is said to be the third on the site, probably dating from the late 19th century; it was used for berry processing. The building is sited alongside a stream, forded by a picturesque stone bridge. It is now called the Coventry Cranberry Company; the bogs are still in production.

PERRY HILL ROAD

20. "The Little House" (c. 1789): An 18th-century, 1½-story, shingled house, four bays wide, with a gable roof and center and end chimneys. A rear addition connects the house with outbuildings. A stone tower is located on the property.
21. Fox Hill Farm (early 19th century): A 1½-story, 5-bay house with a gable roof, dormers and two end chimneys. The portico central doorway has a fanlight and sidelights. Massive stone walls surround the property and continue along the road.
22. Hidden Hollow Farm (mid-19th century): A 1½-story farmhouse with a steeply pitched roof and gable dormers, with many alterations and additions. The property is distinguished by its setting in a cluster of pine trees, near a pond and is surrounded by fine stone walls.



Rice City Church (1846); Vaughn Hollow Road. (Map #38-W)



Isaac Fisk Farm (1890); Plainfield Pike, Rice City. (Map #38-K)

23. HARRIS

Harris is located on a picturesque section of the northern branch of the Pawtuxet River, in the north-eastern corner of Coventry, overlapping into West Warwick. The first mill built at Harris was a stone, spinning mill built after the War of 1812 by Caleb Atwood. In 1821 Elisha Harris (later Governor of Rhode Island) bought the site and the adjoining Potter farm, and this is the location of the present-day village. In 1851, a new mill was built, which still stands. A third mill and dam were built in 1860, but only the dam survives. Located behind the 1851 mill and to the northeast are several streets lined with houses built for the mill workers. The houses, for one and two families, occupy small lots, some abutting the mill yard. Nearby stand the mansions of the mill agents and industrial owners. As it stands now, Harris is a well preserved village; many original elements have been kept and there are few extraneous modern intrusions. It has been recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

ELM STREET

- 23-A. Mill Houses (c. 1821): Five, 1½-story, gable-roofed single-family mill houses.

HARRIS STREET

- 23-B. Mill Houses (c. 1825): Four, Greek Revival, 1½-story, 2-family mill houses with gable-roofs.

- 23-C. House (60 Harris Street; c. 1830): A Greek Revival, 1½-story dwelling, set on high ground facing Terrace Avenue. A substantial house, it has a pedimented end gable, set gable end towards Terrace Avenue.

HIGHLAND STREET

- 23-D. Mill Houses (c. 1825): Ten, two-family mill houses, 1½-stories with gable roofs and separate entrances with stoops.

- 23-E. Potter House (32 Highland Street; c. 1870): A 2-story, gable-roofed Late Victorian dwelling with Stick Style trussing in the center gable. Owned by the Potter family in 1870, who had at one time farmed all the land that is now Harris and Arkwright. A family cemetery in on the property.

MAIN STREET (Route 115)

- 23-F. Elisha Harris House (546 Main Street; c. 1840): Built for Elisha Harris, founder of Harris Village, this fine Greek Revival house is one of the most elaborate of the

period in Coventry. Its 3-bay core stands three stories high, stepping down to two, with 1-story wings at both sides creating a 7-bay front. It has a bracketed low-pitched roof with balustrades and a belvedere and a semi-circular entrance porch topped by a 2nd-story balcony. It was later occupied by Henry Howard, Harris' son-in-law, who also became Governor of Rhode Island. There are numerous rear additions. It is now the River-view Nursing Home.

- 23-G. Howard House (550 Main Street; c. 1885): A 3-story, Late Victorian, cross-gabled house with a wrap around porch, owned by the Howard family in 1895, the mill owners at that time.
- 23-H. Worker's Housing (c. 1825): A cluster of small, 1½-story, 3-bay cottages with steeply pitched roofs and large center chimneys. Four survive on the street side, with three more opposite, along the river. Some of the cottages are intact, but many have been severely altered.
- 23-I. Mill Tenements (568, 574 Main Street; c. 1825): Two, large, multi-family mill tenements, 2½-stories with gable roofs and center chimneys.
- 23-J. Former Elder Tavern Meetinghouse (580 Main Street; 1829): This large, 2½-story, gable-roofed building was once the Elder Tavern Meetinghouse, located in West Warwick. It was bought by Elisha Harris and moved here in 1842 and converted to tenements.
- 23-K. House (584 Main Street; c. 1840): A handsome, 1½-story, Greek Revival dwelling owned by the Harris Manufacturing Company and probably used to house an overseer. Gable roofed, it has paneled, pilaster cornerboards and a portico entrance. There are numerous side additions.
- 23-L. Edward Bucklin House (590 Main Street; c. 1860): An Early Victorian, 2½-story, Italianate villa with a bracketed hip roof, 1-story side wings and a large portico entrance with an elaborate doorway with fan. It was owned in 1895 by Edward Bucklin, treasurer of the Arkwright-Interlaken Company.
- 23-M. Harris Mill (618 Main Street; 1851): Constructed of stuccoed, rubble stone, the mill (set gable end to the street) stands 3-stories with a clerestory monitor. The design was ascribed to Providence architect James Bucklin by the noted architectural historian Henry Russell Hitchcock. In his book on Rhode Island Architecture, Hitchcock considers the Harris Mill to be one of the finest mills in the state. It originally had a

fine, frame, Greek Revival belfry, but this no longer survives. The Harris Manufacturing Company, incorporated in 1865, produced heavy cotton sheeting. During the 20th century when the mill became part of the Arkwright-Interlaken Company, textiles continued to be made here. Since 1956, however, the structure has been used for light manufacture by the Victor Electric Company.

- 23-N. Harris Fire Station (701 Main Street; 1889): Set on the Coventry-West Warwick line is a handsome, Late Victorian brick and frame fire station with elaborate terra-cotta trim. It was formerly the Phoenix Fire Company.

MILL STREET

- 23-O. Mill Houses(c. 1825): Six, 1½-story, Greek Revival, two-family mill houses, many with the original door enframements and transom lights.
- 23-P. Christopher Greene House (2 Potter Court; 1882): A large 2½-story, Queen Anne style dwelling, decorated with cut shingles, stucco and half-timbering, and cut-brick chimneys, with a matching carriage house at the rear. Built for Christopher Greene, owner of the Clyde Print Works in nearby West Warwick, it is the sole example of an urban Queen Anne style dwelling in Coventry.

TERRACE AVENUE

- 23-Q. Mill Houses (c. 1821): Five, 1½-story, single-family mill houses with gable roofs.
- 23-R. House (15 Terrace Avenue; c. 1825): A 1½-story Greek Revival house, Victorianized by the addition of a central projecting bay and an attached, open porch.

24. HILL FARM

The Hill family has owned this 200-acre farm since 1741, when the homestead was built. The farm was their mainstay, but by the mid-19th century other activities supplemented the family income, such as the knitting of cotton stockings which were then sold locally. In 1877, James H. Hill started a japannery for "japanning" (covering with a hard coat of paint and laqueur) zinc tips of shoe laces, laces being an item produced by several Rhode Island textile mills. He built a second house for outside help, originally for two families. A four-family house for more help was added later and two more houses were built in 1909. These two, identical to each other, were erected for James H. Hill's sons.

The business of making shoe lace tips continues, but plastic acetate has replaced zinc, and machines have replaced the outside help for the most part. The farm stretches to the edges of Johnson Pond, fed by the Big River and now connected by the Flat River as part of the Flat River Reservoir. By 1925, the first water-side resort cottages had been built and the Hills entered the resort industry, renting and selling cottages along the pond's edge, while the remaining open fields on the property are now rented out to be planted with feed corn.

off HILL FARM ROAD

- 24-A. Japannery (1942): This is the third japannery on the site; the second and largest of the three buildings burned in 1942 and the japannery was rebuilt on a smaller scale on the old brick foundation. No traces of the first (1877) japannery survive. A plain, 1-story, barn-like building with a gable roof, the japannery has no special design, merely providing shelter for the machinery and japanning activity.
- 24-B. Hill Homestead (1741): A 1½-story, gambrel-roofed dwelling with a dutch kick at the cornice line. The house has been much altered over the years but the massing appears to remain basically original.
- 24-C. Hill Houses (1909): Two identical 2½-story residences
- 24-D. with the central bay of the buildings set back, while the side bays project, topped by gables. They were built by James H. Hill for his two sons.
- 24-E. House (c. 1877): Built when the first japannery was being erected, as a 2-family house for outside help. The many gabled, asymmetrical, 2½-story structure is decorated with cut shingles and sports a side bay, capped by a turret.
- 24-F. Tenement (late 19th century): Built as a 4-family tenement, originally rented to employees of the japannery, the house is two stories high, six bays wide and has a hip roof.
- 24-G. House (late 19th century): A 1½-story house with a gable roof and two 1-story ells. It was moved to this location in this century, to be closer to the road.

POTTERVILLE (MAPLE VALLEY) ENVIRONS

Originally settled by Thomas Whaley, the area became known as Whaley's Hollow and was the site of several saw-mills in the 18th century. With the building of the

"Great North Road" in 1714, this area became more populated, and many of the lots along the highway were settled by the Whaley and Bowen families. Potterville was the governmental center of the township for over a century after the town's incorporation. The Waterman Tavern was established here in 1747 and was frequently used for town meetings; stocks and a whipping post were erected nearby in 1766, and in 1835 Coventry's first official Town House (now demolished) was erected. About 1830, Samuel Bowen located a tannery nearby, and in 1844 a sawmill, erected by Samuel Wright, near his home on Maple Valley Road, was converted into a bobbin factory by Robert Potter (who gave his name to the settlement). The factory supplied bobbins for use in the Pawtuxet Valley cotton mills. In the late 19th century, when the governmental center was moved to Washington, several lace mills were built in Potterville, employing the local population. Now a rather sleepy settlement with no apparent industrial base (all the lace mills have burned), Potterville strikes one more as a district than a village. It is known today as Maple Valley.

HALL ROAD

25. Vaughn House (c. 1786): A Federal, 2½-story dwelling with a gable roof, large center chimney and a side entrance with side lights. The building has been altered; in the middle of the 19th century, Greek Revival detail was added and a rear addition with matching detail was built. It was the property of George Vaughn as early as 1851.

MAPLE VALLEY ROAD

26. House (c. 1840): A 1½-story, gable-roofed, Greek Revival house with a central doorway with side lights, located at the corner of Matteson Road, opposite the site of the 1835 Town House (demolished).
27. Samuel Wright House (c. 1781): This 1½-story, gable-roofed house with a center chimney and central doorway has been rebuilt (due to fires) and altered many times, but using the same foundation. Now, it most closely resembles a Greek Revival dwelling. Nearby is the site of the Samuel Wright sawmill, later the Potter bobbin factory (demolished).
28. Waterman Tavern (c. 1747, or earlier): Built by John Waterman, it is a simple, 2½-story, 5-bay, frame building, gable-roofed with a large center chimney and a central doorway. Waterman's first tavern license dates from 1747, and the building was used for town meetings until the Town House was built nearby in 1835. The French forces commanded by Rochambeau camped in the fields below the tavern on their way to Yorktown in 1781 and on their way home to France the following year. Lafayette is also said to have stayed here,

leaving behind a sword mark above one of the fireplace mantels. The tavern is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

29. Parker Woodland: 250 acres of woodland given to the Audubon Society of Rhode Island in 1941 as a wild-life refuge by George Parker, Town Clerk of Coventry at the beginning of the 20th century. It has more than two miles of hiking and walking trails through woodland and along stone mounds and rock ledges. The remains of a 20th-century sawmill complex are also within the property near the forks of the Turkey Meadow and Pine Swamp brooks. An invaluable cultural resource, this tract of woodland preserved by the Audubon Society allows the public to experience the magnificence of Coventry's natural scenery.
30. Whaley Homestead (c. 1740): A modest 1½-story dwelling with a steeply pitched roof, this house is built into the side of an embankment, allowing for a full basement story. It was built by Thomas Whaley, the first settler here, who later became deacon of the Maple Root Church. It was used as a school in the early 19th century.
31. Whaley House (c. 1840): Situated next door to the Whaley homestead and alongside Whaley Brook, this is the second house built by the Whaley family. It is a large, 2½-story, somewhat altered (due to fire) Greek Revival dwelling, set gable end to the road. Gable-roofed, it has a pedimented end gable, two interior chimneys and paneled, pilaster corner boards. Map references show this to be the property of J. Whaley in 1851.
32. Amasa Relph House (c. 1840): A 1½-story, gable-roofed, Greek Revival dwelling with a side ell. It was the property of Amasa Relph, a farmer in 1851.

TOWN FARM ROAD

33. Poor Farm-Town Asylum (c. 1790): Formerly the Joseph Briggs farmstead, the property was bought by the town by 1853 for use as a Poor Farm and Town Asylum. The farmhouse is a handsome late 18th-century, 2½-story structure with a gable roof. For a rural farmhouse, it has an unusually fine pedimented doorway flanked by fluted pilasters and topped by a fanlight. The building has a large rear addition, probably added after 1853, to provide extra room for the poor and indigent townfolk who could board here free of charge. The farm was in operation until the late 1930s and was sold a decade later. The house is intact (although in need of restoration) as are the farm outbuildings--a barn and a wood shed. It is an important landmark in the social history of the town and an exceptionally fine example of a late 18th-